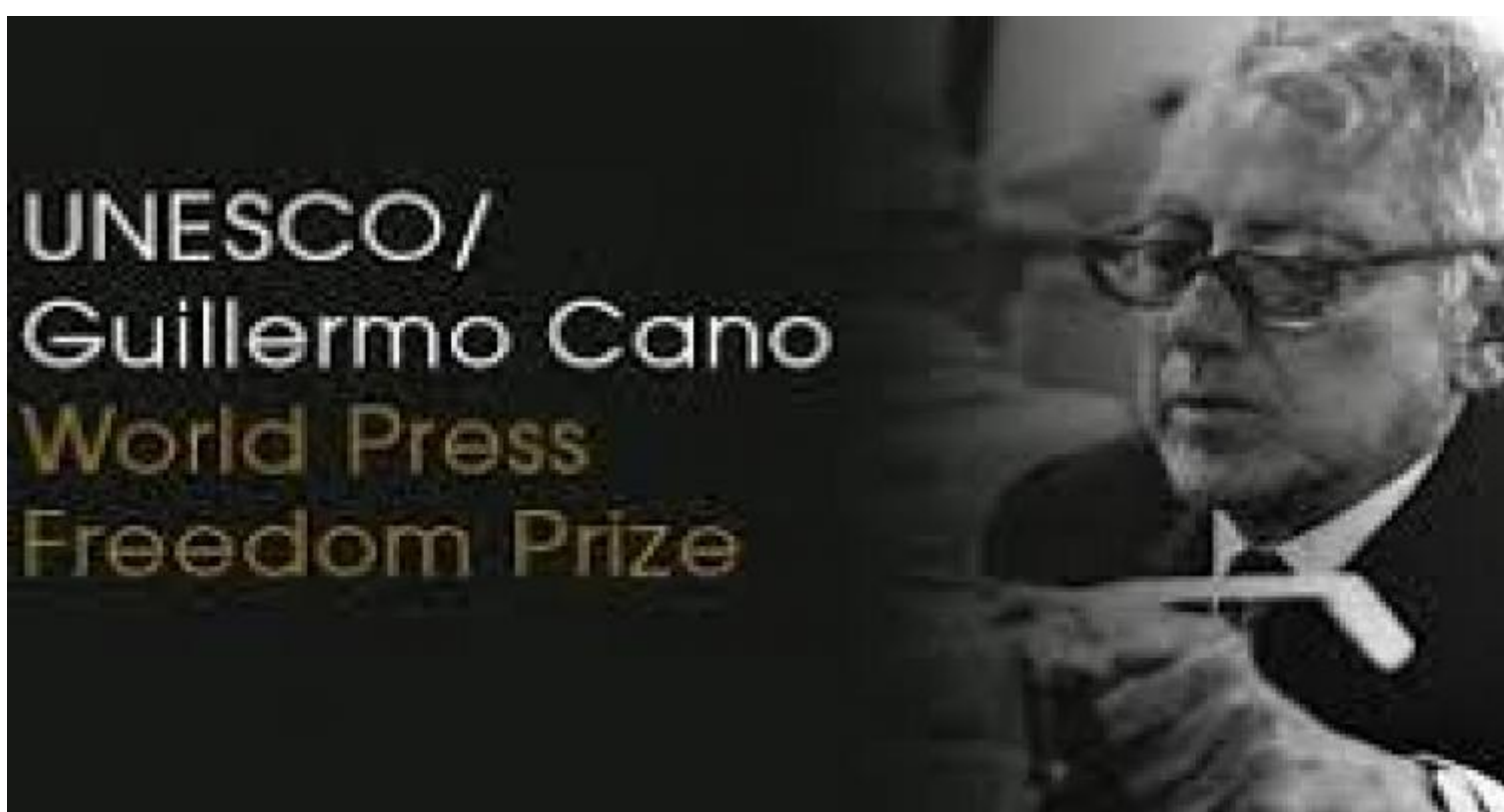


Colombian journalist Jineth Bedoya Lima to receive 2020 UNESCO/Guillermo Cano World Press Freedom Prize



Colombian investigative journalist Jineth Bedoya Lima has been named as the laureate of the 2020 UNESCO/Guillermo Cano World Press Freedom Prize on the recommendation of an independent international jury of media professionals.

Born in 1974, Jineth Bedoya Lima's reporting has focused on the armed conflict and peace process in Colombia and on sexual violence against women. She was herself a victim of sexual violence in 2000 when she was abducted and raped in connection with an investigation into arms trafficking she was conducting for daily newspaper El Espectador. Three years later, while working for the daily El Tiempo, she was kidnapped by militants of the former Revolutionary Armed Forces of Colombia (FARC).

"The courage and commitment of Jineth Bedoya Lima, doubly exposed to unacceptable risks as a woman and as a journalist, inspire profound respect," said UNESCO Director-General Audrey Azoulay.

The UNESCO chief added: “The present pandemic highlights the vital role journalists play in providing all of us with access to reliable, in some cases vital, information in crises situations. It also shows the many risks journalists face everywhere in the world in the exercise of their profession.”

The UNESCO/Guillermo Cano World Press Freedom Prize is awarded annually on the occasion of World Press Freedom Day, celebrated on 3 May. This year’s Prize-giving ceremony and main conference on freedom of the press, which were scheduled to take place in The Hague in cooperation with the Government of the Netherlands will be postponed due to the Covid-19 crisis. Nevertheless, a series of activities and events will be held online focusing on the importance of press freedom and the work of independent journalists to ensure access to information during the pandemic.

<https://www.radiohc.cu/en/noticias/cultura/221414-colombian-journalist-jineth-bedoya-lima-to-receive-2020-unescoguillermo-cano-world-press-freedom-prize>



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